



# CTT CAREER PATH (IDW/SW/AW/SG/EXW)



CTTs are Cryptologic Technician Technical. CTTs perform a variety of technically-intensive duties, both afloat and ashore, associated with processing and interpreting RADAR emissions for tactical and strategic value. They operate Electronic Intelligence (ELINT)/Electronic Support (ES) receiving/processing systems and peripheral equipment to provide threat assessments, situational awareness and Indications and Warnings (I&W) in addition to formulating Electronic Attack (EA) techniques and tactics. Additionally, CTTs record and analyze RADAR data to develop and maintain RADAR libraries for strategic analysis and development of deception techniques. They operate and maintain ES and EA systems permanently installed on ships. CTTs perform their duties on ships, submarines, aircraft, patrol craft and at shore commands in the U.S. and overseas. CTTs also augment U.S. Special Operations Forces and Expeditionary Warfare forces abroad.

YEARS OF SERVICE	CAREER MILESTONES	AVERAGE TIME TO PROMOTE	COMMISSIONING OR OTHER SPECIAL PROGRAMS	SEA/ SHORE FLOW	TYPICAL CAREER PATH DEVELOPMENT
26-30	CTTCM	19.8 Yrs	CMC	36	Sea or Shore Tour Billet: Staff Duty, ECM, SEL, SEA. Duty: FFC, OPNAV, CNSWC, PEO, BUPERS, TYCOM, NPC, CID, Numbered Fleet.
23-26	CTTCM CTTCS	19.8 Yrs 15.7	CMC, CSC	36	Sea or Shore Tour Billet: Dept LCPO, Staff Duty, SEA, SEL, ECM, Senior Detailer. Duty: NIOC, BUPERS, TYCOM, NPC, FFC, OPNAV, CID, CPF, Numbered Fleet, PEO, CNSWC.
16-20	CTTCS CTTC CTT1	15.7 Yrs 11.6 7.6	LDO, CWO, OCS, MECP, CSC	36	4 <sup>th</sup> Sea Tour/3 <sup>rd</sup> Shore Tour Billet: Dept LCPO, LCPO Afloat, Staff Duty, Detailer. Duty: Ship, Submarine, Aircrew, NIOC, CID, ATG, RTC, NSW, NPC, CPF, Numbered Fleet. Qualification: Senior Enlisted Academy, Shipboard SWC, AWC. NEC 1781.
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12-16	CTTCS CTTC CTT1	15.7 Yrs 11.6 7.6	LDO, CWO, OCS, MECP, CSC	36	2 <sup>nd</sup> Shore Tour/3 <sup>rd</sup> Sea Tour Billet: LCPO Afloat or Ashore, Department LCPO, Afloat Staff, Instructor, DIRSUP Supervisor, TIO Analyst or Operator, Detailer. Duty: Ship, Submarine, Aircrew, NIOC, ATG, RTC, NRD, CID, NSW, CID, NPC. Qualification: Warfare Qualifications, MTS, Shipboard SWC, AWC. NEC 1781.
8-12	CTTC CTT1 CTT2	11.6 Yrs 7.6 3.3	LDO, CWO, OCS, MECP, CSC	Operator-36. Maintainer-42.	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sea Tour/1 <sup>st</sup> Shore Tour Billet: LPO afloat, LCPO Afloat, Afloat Staff, Instructor, DIRSUP Operator and/or Supervisor, TIO Operator/Analyst. National Systems, TECHELINT. Duty: Ship, Submarine, Aircrew, NIOC, ATG, RTC, NRD, CID, NSW. Qualifications: EW Supervisor, MTS, Warfare qualifications. NEC's 9141, 9102, 1781.
4-8	CTT1 CTT2 CTT3	7.6 Yrs 3.3 1.6	STA-21, OCS, MESAP and MOSAP internships. MESAP results in NEC 9168, MOSAP in NEC 9106.	36	1 <sup>st</sup> Shore Tour/2 <sup>nd</sup> Sea Tour Billet: EW Systems operator and/or maintainer. EW Journeyman, EW Supervisor. DIRSUP submarines operator and/or supervisor. National Systems operator, TECHELINT analyst. TIO Operator/Analyst. Duty: NIOC, Ship, Submarine, Aircrew, ATG, CID, NSW. Qualification: EW Operator, EW Supervisor, National Systems Analyst/Supervisor, Warfare Qualifications. NEC's 9102, 9141, 5306/5307, 1708, 1702, 1734, 1736, 1737.
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1-4	CTT2 CTT3	3.3 Yrs 1.6	Naval Academy, NROTC	Operator– 36. Maintainer– 48.	1 <sup>st</sup> Sea Tour Billet: Fleet EW Systems Operator and/or Maintainer, DIRSUP submarines operator, Aircrew, ELINT analyst. Duty: Ship, NIOC, Submarine, Aircrew. Qualification: EW Operator, EW Supervisor, Submarine Systems operator, Aircrew, National Systems Analyst, Warfare Qualifications. NEC 9135, 8296, 1708, 1702, 1734, 1736, 1737.
1+/-	CTT3 CTTSA CTTSN Accession Training	9 Months			Recruit Training, CTT “A” School and Maintenance “C” School (17XX NEC awarded), Aircrew, Subsurface Operator.
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**Notes:**

1. Sea/Shore Flow for CTTs is 36/36 with the following exceptions: 6YO Advanced Electronic Technicians 1st sea tour will be 48 months and their 2<sup>nd</sup> sea tour will be 42 months. Initial sea tours for NSW-TIO are 5 years with a potential NSW shore duty obligation follow-on tour. Following completion of either the three year Military ELINT Signals Analyst Program (MESAP) or Military OPELINT Signals Analysis Program (MOSAP) internships, graduates are required to fulfill a three year payback tour. MESAP graduates should expect to be assigned to an NSA Shore site (in a 9168 billet), MOSAP graduates should expect to be assigned to an appropriate 9106 billet. Following the payback tour, they are eligible and expected to return to their sea duty rotation.
2. Career enhancing sea duty tours should include LPO, department/division LCPO, 3MC, Numbered Fleet Staff or Carrier Strike Group Staffs, challenging command-level collaterals and other qualifications that support command mission.
3. Career enhancing shore tours should be positions in which enlisted leaders develop subordinates and mentor them in proper career progression with emphasis on continuing technical development, leadership development and Sailorization. CTT leadership-intensive shore duty billets are NIOC/NSA CSS LCPO, and Staff duty.



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4. When discussing career enhancing milestones and tours, it is important to understand the effects of the 2003 CTT/EW merger. Prior to the merger, CTTs specialized in both OPELINT and TECHELINT areas, the merger resulted in three distinct areas of focus (adding EW), and today's CTT has the additional opportunity to augment Special Operations Forces. The rating as a whole benefits from both the CTTs that are diverse and understand all missions of the rating, but also those that are specialized in just one or two areas. Sustained superior performance has always been the key to success, the CTT that is selected for advancement should be the one that has consistently broken out whether s/he is assigned to surface ships, submarines, aircraft, special forces, as an operator, analyst, technician or maintainer.
5. At the Apprentice and Journeyman levels CTTs are assessed as operators, operator/maintainers or analysts. No two CTTs will follow identical career patterns; however, on the average, the successful CTT will meet most of the career milestones illustrated in Career Path Continuum in the sequence indicated.
6. TIO - Tactical Information Operator (TIO) billets are sea duty billets that augment Special Operations Command in support of Navy SEAL teams, Special Boat Teams, and other Special Mission Units. This duty is extremely demanding and leadership opportunities may be limited due to the independent nature of the duties assigned. Due to specific training and operational requirements, some CTTs will remain assigned to this functional area based on their technical expertise and corporate knowledge. This is usually a five year minimum obligation.
7. Air/Surface/Subsurface DIRSUP - Direct Support billets are sea duty billets that augment aircraft/ships/submarines in support of Fleet and CNO directed special operations. This duty is considered arduous and extremely challenging; some CTTs will remain confined to this functional area based on their technical expertise and corporate knowledge and multiple tours should not be viewed negatively.